

## **LINK CANYON MINE PORTAL VEGETATION STUDY**

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Photographs were retaken at the Link Canyon Mine Portal on September 23, 2010. The area has received very little moisture during the summer months. The overall moisture for the area continues to be below normal. There is no water discharging from this portal and there is no evidence that they has been any this summer.



**Link Canyon West Portal Photo Point**



It is estimated that the site plant density is 60-70 percent plant cover. The majority of the plant cover consists of Halogeton (*Halogeton glomeratus*).

The following plants were found on the site and measure: (1) Rabbitbrush (*Chrysothamnus spp.*) 10-12 high with some inflorescences, (2) Crested wheatgrass (*Agropyron desertorum*) 12-14 inch high seed heads, (3) Great Basin Wildrye (*Elymus cinereus*) seed heads 36-48 inches high, (4) Slender wheatgrass (*Elymus trachycaulus*) with seed heads 18-24 inches high, (5) Indian Rice grass (*Stipa hymenoides*) with 10 inchws of leaf growth and numerous seed heads 16-18 inches high, (6) Willow (*Salix spp.*) current growth 18-36inches, (7) Squaw bush(*Rhus aralmatica var. trilobata*) current growth of 12-18 inches, (8) Current bush ( *Ribes spp.*) leader growth of 5-6 inches, and Halogeton ( *Halogeton glomeratus*). Halogeton is an annual plant and is a noxious plant. Halogeton is currently the predominant plant species at this site. It needs to be controlled. Although a sagebrush plant was noted earlier it was not found during this site visit.



**Link Canyon East Portal Photo Point**

There is no water discharging from this portal and there is no evidence that there has been any this summer. The few scattered Bluegrass plants (*Poa pratensis*) have matured seed heads that are 12-14 inches high. The cheatgrass plants (*Poa tectorum*) have all matured and the seed has been scattered, the seed heads are 10-14 inches high. The Indian Rice grass plant (*Stipa hymenoides*) has matured and has several seed heads which are 14-16 inches high. The wire grass plants (*Juncus spp.*) are 10-12 inches high and have some seed heads. The Rabbitbrush is in bloom and has new growth of 12-16 inches in length. The Dogwood bush (*Cornus stolonifera*) has a few basal sprouts which are 3 inches in length. The Clematis plants (*Clematis liusticifolia*) have numerous seed heads. The willow bush (*Salix spp.*) has 12-14 inches of new growth. There are two slender Wheatgrass plants that have 14-16 inch high seed heads